

**STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
CITY OF REHOBOTH BEACH**

**July 20, 2015**

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Bill Sargent on Monday, July 20, 2015 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Bill Sargent, Kathy Osterholm, John Gauger, Dennis Diehl, Jim Ellison, Toni Sharp, Cindy Lovett, Lorraine Zellers

Also Present: City Manager Sharon Lynn, Police Chief Keith Banks

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Lorraine Zellers made a motion, seconded by Cindy Lovett, to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes were available for approval.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Discuss status of proposed additional crosswalks and silent policemen.**

City Manager Sharon Lynn and Police Chief Keith Banks have been looking at the various proposed crosswalks locations which were recommended by the Committee. Police Chief Banks noted that the Commissioners had agreed for striping to be put in across Lake Avenue to the tot lot area to delineate a crosswalk area and at the four areas at the Maryland Avenue and Second Street intersection. Police Chief Banks will be working with Ms. Lynn and Mike Peterman, Supervisor of Streets Department on these two projects. He has been waiting on further information from the Mayor regarding Surf Avenue.

Ms. Lynn reported that a silent policeman could be located at the corner of Surf and Lake Avenues. The recommendation from the Streets Department was to not locate a silent policeman at Maryland Avenue and Second Street because of the tight turning radius for vehicles. Police Chief Banks noted that the Chief of Fire Department also did not recommend a silent policeman be set up there because of the tight turning radius for emergency vehicles.

Walter Brittingham, 123 Henlopen Avenue, said that if striping will be put in at Maryland Avenue and Second Street, handicapped ramping will need to be provided. The intent of putting in striping is correct, but the law will not allow for it to be done because handicapped ramping will need to be in place.

Bill suggested that Ms. Lynn have the handicapped ramping installed at the Maryland Avenue and Second Street sidewalks if it is not currently there.

**Discuss possible improvements to Surf Avenue.**

City Manager Lynn noted that she and Police Chief Banks will be meeting with a traffic engineer from AECOM later this week to develop a proposal for a traffic study on Surf Avenue.

Bill noted that Senator Lopez has contacted him and Ms. Lynn with regard to possible funding for the Surf Avenue project. The traffic study will include the entire length of Surf Avenue and will include pedestrian accessibility and safety.

Walter Brittingham suggested that a sign should be installed four feet off of the sidewalk at the no parking area before the turn going north to south at the Henlopen which indicates a crosswalk is ahead. The sign should be placed where people can see it.

**Report on and/or discuss additional items of possible concern.**

Ms. Lynn noted that staff is currently concentrating its efforts towards the new parking meters and pay stations. It is not a good time of the year to paint or restripe anything. More trash cans will added on the west end of Rehoboth Avenue.

**Discuss status of Bike Patrol.**

Frank Cole was not in attendance at the meeting to discuss the status of the Bike Patrol.

Police Chief Banks noted that there have been some issues with the Bike Patrol. Visitors have complained about some of the volunteers riding their bicycles too fast, providing incorrect information and acting like police officers. Frank Cole has been addressing those issues with the volunteers, and there have been less complaints. The Bike Patrol program is working and will be improved for next year. Positive feedback has been provided that the two volunteers, sometimes three, are on the Boardwalk seven days per week from 7:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. One of the volunteers is designated to be in charge and checks in with the summer officers each day. The volunteers have been provided with uniforms and walkie talkies. A minimum of three summer officers on bicycles and two foot patrol officers are on the Boardwalk from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. every day. There have been no reported accidents on the Boardwalk to date this summer.

**Discuss proposed Bicycle Friendly Street Guide for 2015.**

Jim Ellison provided copies of the proposed Bicycle Friendly Street Guide for the Committee members to review. It is dependent on Ms. Lynn whether or not the City will produce copies of the guide in-house. Jim will be talking with the bicycle business owners regarding the distribution and replenishment of the guide. Frank Cole has offered that he may be able to replenish his own supplies. Jim has been working on the proposed guide with a consultant from Group J Designs. The intended format will be done as an 8½” x 14” layout.

Comments and suggestions regarding the guide are:

1. Do a qr code on the guide.
2. Show City Hall/Police Department on the map.
3. The larger map needs to be fixed to better reflect what is being suggested in the blowup for the City area.
4. A box should be shown on the map at the Circle to indicate there is a blowup of that area.
5. When on Rehoboth Avenue and crossing over to Grove Park and crossing over at First and Second Streets, a yellow star should be used to distinguish that a person should walk their bike at those points.
6. A yellow star with a reference to walking a bike should be placed in the legend.
7. Leave all of Columbia Avenue orange as a street to avoid.
8. Show both Hickman and Stockley Streets as safe routes into the City, and extend the arrows through Bayard Avenue.
9. A blue spot at the top of the map to denote to the Boardwalk and business district so a person coming from Gordon’s Pond Trail will know where they are located .
10. A note if there is room on the map for a bike to use the roadway and not the sidewalk at Silver Lake Bridge.
11. Change the streets to avoid in the legend to streets to avoid/walk bikes.
12. Change the safe routes into and out of Rehoboth Beach in the legend to recommended routes into and out of Rehoboth Beach.
13. Verify the locations of the bike racks on Rehoboth Avenue to coordinate them with the map.
14. Provide mobile site availability and different formats for this brochure.
15. On the reverse side of the map, note that bike racks are available in many areas throughout the City.
16. Print an edition number or date to know when the brochure was done.
17. Don’t use your cell phone or text while riding should be relocated from common sense ideas to the law.

This brochure will need to be approved by the Mayor and Commissioners before proceeding with publication which will be done immediately after approval. A recommendation will also be made to the Mayor and Commissioners for the bike map in a larger form to be posted at the key bike trail and gateway locations.

Kathy and Jim will work together on minimizing the detailed list they had done on the green signage indicators for the trails.

**Discuss potential City gateway issues and possible solutions.**

Bill noted that Jim had written a document describing the rationale for an exploratory meeting with State agencies. This document was attached to a letter the Mayor wrote to representatives from the State who had contacted him. The document explains what the concerns are of the Committee. Mayor Cooper has invited Mr.

Anthony Alio and representatives from DNREC to attend the Committee's next meeting on August 24, 2015. Bill suggested that the Committee members should read the document and be prepared with questions and considerations for the State.

Kathy Osterholm noted that 1B, State Road which is a State controlled road also known as Roosevelt Street, was not mentioned as a gateway in the document.

Jim will forward the list of issues and concerns to the Committee prior to the next meeting. This list backs up the brief statement which was forwarded to the Mayor. Copies of the map with the four areas of concern regarding the gateways will be provided at that meeting.

Cindy Lovett will provide photographs of the gateways for the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Discuss accreditation process for a Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Bicyclists.**

Bill had forwarded a copy of the accreditation document for League of Bicycles to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

Karen Zakarian said that the State of Delaware has allotted monies to make the state a walkable/bikeable Delaware. The next meeting is August 5, 2015, and anyone from Rehoboth is welcome to attend. Under Title 28, Chapter 17, there is a Delaware Bicycle Council which is made up of representatives from DNREC, Department of Education, Department of Safety and Homeland Security, State Police, Division of Parks & Recreation and citizens. The Delaware Department of Transportation shall provide staff and fiscal support to the Council as part of that department's ongoing responsibility. Funding would be available to the City even if it is not tied to the Bicycle Friendly City designation.

Bill noted that the Committee will not be able to meet the accreditation process deadline for a Bicycle Friendly City for this year since the deadline is August 11, 2015. The Mayor and Commissioners will need to be apprised of this accreditation. At this point in time, only Newark and Lewes have filed for this accreditation and have been recognized as bike friendly towns.

Toni Sharp was supportive of an exploratory phase. Jim agreed. The Committee would need to move very cautiously with this.

Lorraine Zellers liked the concept, but the Committee needs to look at the City as one square mile and look at the streets which are narrow and filled with cars. The Committee will also have to look at the ramifications of what happens to the communities when they become bicycle friendly streets. The Committee will need to have the commitment from the Mayor and Commissioners to move forward with this accreditation. She suggested inviting Mike Tyler from Lewes to a future meeting to see what is involved and get more information.

Cindy Lovett said that the City has gateway issues and streets that are unsafe. Her thought was to table this discussion and bring it up in another year.

C.C. Alexander, 65 Park Avenue, said that she would like to see a sidewalk from Memorial House on Second Street to Lake Gerar.

## **DISCUSS ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Items to include on the August agenda are: 1. Discussion with State. 2. Review additional signage needs throughout the City to include green signage indicators for the trails, street markings, poles, gateway signage, sharrows and directional street signage. 3. Brief comment from Karen Zakarian about the Delaware Bicycle Council meeting on August 5, 2015.

Items to include on a future agenda are: 1. Mike Tyler presentation with a followup from Karen Zakarian on the matter of the accreditation process for a Bicycle Friendly City. 2. Sidewalks. 3. Review crosswalks on Rehoboth Avenue.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were none.

## **CITIZEN COMMENT**

Walter Brittingham suggested that the Committee should look at the islands on Rehoboth Avenue that do not

have handicapped ramps to get off of them from Fourth Street to Fifth Street. There should be an aerial photograph of where crossovers need to be on Rehoboth Avenue so that it could be budgeted for next spring for work to be done the following fall.

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be held on August 24, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Chair Bill Sargent adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**(Ann M. Womack, City Secretary)**

**MINUTES APPROVED ON  
AUGUST 24, 2015**

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**(Bill Sargent, Chair)**